IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Eiji Kasutani, et al.

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In connection with the filing of the above-identified application, kindly enter the following preliminary amendments.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: November 29, 2004

Paul J/ Esatto, Jr.